

Knight of the Immaculata

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Victory of the Rosary in Lepanto



Militia Immaculatae Traditional Observance

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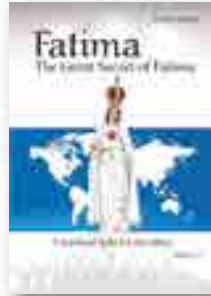
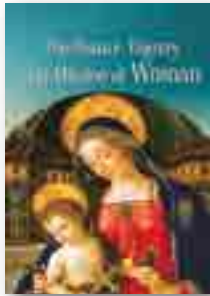


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Dear Knights of the Immaculata!

Our life in the earth is short — so said many saints. And only now can we gather merit for eternal life. After death it will not be possible. Living on earth we are a Church militant. We must fight against our sins, our weaknesses, against all kinds of evil; we must fight for our salvation. How best to do this? With Mary Immaculate through the prayer of the Rosary.

This issue of *Knight of the Immaculata* reaches you, dear Knights, in October, the month of the Rosary. In this year, October is special, because we celebrate the 450th Anniversary of one of the famous victories of the Rosary: the Lepanto battle. Please read very carefully the text in this issue of *Knight* — pages 9–18. You will learn the power of the Rosary. Father Maximilian and many other saints have written about how great a weapon it is. Many of us have become convinced of the power of the Rosary. I warmly encourage you to pray the Rosary every day. If you cannot pray the whole Rosary or the five decades, please pray at least one decade, but with faith in Mary's help and with great fervour, praising her glory. This is very important!

Please, don't stop your rosary prayer in October. Please, continue your prayer in November. November is the month of the holy souls in purgatory. Between our life on earth, and in Heaven, lies purgatory. It is the Church suffering. These are people who have already died and are serving God's sentence in purgatory. In this way they cleanse themselves of their shortcomings and imperfections. The soul is not admitted to Heaven to see the Lord God until it is purified. It is necessary for the soul to be purified of every blemish before being admitted to the vision of God. Souls in purgatory need our prayer, especially the prayer of the Rosary. They need Holy Mass.

All Souls' Day (the 2nd of November) and end of the year also makes us mindful not only of the death of our dear ones but also of our own, with regard to the four last things. The four last things are: death, judgment, hell and Heaven.

Death is the separation of the soul from the body. The soul, being immortal, does not die, but immediately after man's death he stands at the judgement of God; while the body remains on earth, decays and turns to dust.

Judgment: Immediately after a person dies, his soul is judged by the Lord Jesus. The judged soul will go either to purgatory, Heaven or hell.

Hell is a place of eternal torment, where the souls of those who have left this world with even one grave sin enter.

Heaven is the place of supreme happiness for angels and humans.

While remembering the last things, let us try already here on earth to live without sin, to overcome our weaknesses, to fight our vices and to submit to the judgments of God, who wants to purify us already here on earth. Purification accomplished on earth has the great advantage of being meritorious, that is, of increasing grace and charity in us, thus permitting us to love God more for all eternity; whereas in purgatory, one suffers without growing in charity. That is why we should desire to be purified during life.

We want to become saints, but in the easiest way possible, without effort, without fatigue or violence to ourselves; we should like to practice virtue, but only to a certain point, only when it does not ask for great sacrifice, or go too much against the grain. And so it happens that when faced with acts of virtue which exact greater self-renunciation, or the acceptance of difficult and repugnant things, such as quelling the resentments of self-love, renouncing an attempt to make our opinion prevail, submitting ourselves and meekly condescending to one who is opposed to us, very often — if not always — we refuse, thinking it unnecessary to go to such lengths.

Yet our progress in holiness depends precisely upon these acts which we hesitate to make; without them we shall always lead a mediocre life, we shall always remain on the same level, if indeed we do not lose ground. Let us beg the saints whom we honour today to help us overcome our laziness, our lassitude, our cowardice; let us ask those who have gone before us in the arduous way of sanctity to obtain for us the strength to follow them. "If such as these have attained to sanctity, why not I?" (St. Augustine). God offers us the grace which He gave to the saints!

Fr. Karl Stehlin

Warsaw, on the 12th of September, 2021

Feast of the Most Holy Name of Mary

The Rosary and the Christian life

Popes have borne willing witness that where the Rosary has been cherished and loved, faith has flourished and piety has prevailed. When we say our Rosary in the spirit of faith we are in the presence of Jesus Christ, not touching the hem of His garment, not basking in the shadow of His Apostle, but speaking to Him, thinking of Him, listening to Him, learning from Him, loving Him, and being loved by Him in return.

Faith, hope, and charity must grow in the spiritual life, if we are constantly in touch with the mysteries which inspire and beget them. If we are frequently in our Rosary, "looking upon Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our Faith," the virtues of His life must be reflected upon our ways, as Peter's shadow upon the sick, and we must rise to a higher level. We cannot think of the life and ways of Christ, in a simple, childlike spirit of faith, without becoming more Christ-like, more simple, more obedient, more patient, more forgiving, more "meek and humble of heart."

King Casimir II of Poland had learnt this lesson when he wrote to the general of the Dominican Order: "I venerate your habit, and I kiss your hands, as I beg of you to send me Preachers of the Rosary to reform my people." Popes and saints alike have borne willing witness to this reforming power. First, its truths and its prayers lift up the individual; and thus, through the individual, the moral life

of a nation is improved. So that, it has often been remarked, nations which have been loyal in their devotion to the Rosary, have remained true to the faith and love of God. Witness Ireland, Poland, Italy, and Spain. On the other hand, nations which have sold their Rosary for the mess of pottage, have fallen from the heights to the depths.

The Rosary, which is the Gospel meditated, as well as the sweetest hymn of praise to Jesus and to Mary, has become the daily companion of the learned and of the simple. The Rosary has become the instructor of the child in the mysteries of Christianity; the consoler of the afflicted; the treasure of the poor; the monitor of the rich; the companion of the missionary; the prayer of the religious;



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the crown of the martyr. The Rosary has become the emblem of truth, and charity.

The Venerable Cure d'Ars declared emphatically that in this century it was the Rosary which restored religion in France: and we all know how, by the testimony of saints, nay, of Our Blessed Lady herself, it was the preaching of the Rosary which at two terrible periods reanimated and saved the faith of Southern Europe.

Neither can we be surprised when we consider how powerfully the heart is affected by frequent meditation on the Incarnation, the Childhood, the Passion, and the risen Glory of our Lord. How great must be the benefit to the soul when such practical meditations are offered up under the invocation of the Queen and the Mother, and joined with the recital of prayers so precious as the *Pater* and the *Ave*. The *Pater* taught by Our Lord Himself containing the compendium of all virtues, the *Ave*, the compendium of all mercy, inspired by the Holy Ghost, and first pronounced by an Archangel at the moment of the Incarnation.

The Rosary is as powerful for good, as efficacious in the preaching of truth, as fruitful in the engendering of virtues in the hearts and lives of men today, as it was in the days of St. Dominic, of Blessed Alan, and of St. Pius V. This is why Pope Leo XIII urged upon bishops and priests to propagate it amongst their people: "It is our ardent wish," he writes to the Catholic world, "that this Devotion may be restored to the place of honour; in the city and in the village, in the family and in the workshop, in the homes of the rich and of the poor; that it may be to all a cherished Devotion, and a noble profession of their faith, and a sure way of winning for our souls the mercy of God" (Encyclical, Sept. 8th, 1894).



The Victory of the Rosary in Lepanto

During this year we celebrate the jubilee of the victory of the Rosary at Lepanto. On the 7th of October 1571, 450 years ago, the Muslim army, despite substantially outnumbering the Catholic forces, suffered a defeat against them in the battle to protect Catholicism in Europe.

The terrible pages from European history convey to us some idea of the meaning of a Turkish invasion of Christendom. Yet, at the time, the only person fully aware of this appalling danger was St. Pius. "The Saint found it impossible to move Christendom to its own defence. How indeed was this to be done when Christendom was leavened with Protestantism, and secretly perhaps felt, as did

the Greeks, that the Turk were its friend and ally?"

Since his accession, St. Pius had been trying to arouse Europe to its danger. The Holy Pope, sick unto death and in grievous pain, rested neither night nor day, and left no means untried to secure success. What would have happened if craven Christendom had risen en masse?



Doubtless the total destruction of the barbarous Ottoman Empire, which for four centuries had been the scourge of civilization. "One is struck by the extreme difficulty which the Sovereign Pontiff had to form the League; by the brilliant victory; and by the almost immediate rupture of the Christian alliance on the death of

the Pope. It all happened like a flash of lightning at night.

One can only conclude that God, yielding to the supplication of His Vicar on earth, deigned for his sake to save the Christian Nations, but that these did not deserve what was due only to the merits of the Saint.

One reads at the same time in the story of Lepanto the mercy and the wrath of God; mercy towards His threatened Church, anger against the sovereigns and the nations given to heresy at the very moment when the prayers of St. Pius snatched them from peril. Two nations were chosen for the combat — Venice and Spain. The others,

rejected, were delivered to furious civil and religious wars.

The question of leadership was discussed. In a moment of inspiration the eyes of the Saint fell on Don Juan of Austria. This young Prince of the Imperial House, who had already distinguished himself in war with the Moors, hastily resigning his governorship, accepted the charge with intense emotion. "Go, my son," was the message sent to him by St. Pius, through the Legate Odescalchi, who was to accompany the expedition: "Go, for I know of





a surety God will give you the Victory!"

On the 24th of May 1571 in a Consistory-extraordinary, an offensive and defensive League against the Turks was signed and sworn to by the Pope, the King of Spain, and the Venetian Republic. Saint Pius made tremendous sacrifices to obtain money for the expedition. The Papal treasury was emptied. His subjects, rich and poor, followed his example. Dignities were resigned and sold. Twelve great monasteries sent a splendid donation. But St. Pius indignantly

rejected the suggestion of the imposition of a super-tax on the people. The offerings were voluntary.

Nor was this the chief part of the preparation. Saint Pius ordered the Devotion of the Forty Hours to be extended over three days, with public processions, during which the Rosary was recited.

The whole expedition was placed under the protection of the Queen of the Holy Rosary. The devotion was not only to be practised daily in each ship; the beads of the Rosary were the weapons with which those left at home should storm Heaven for the success of the League.

"The holy Pope," writes Cardinal Newman" had been

interesting the Holy Virgin in his cause."

On the 21st of July 1571, the Papal fleet sailed for Naples, where it was to meet Don Juan and the allies. It was time to act! The Turks had just captured 15,000 Catholic slaves from Dalmatia (then Venetian), which they had ravaged, together with several islands, and were now masters of the Mediterranean. The Genoese contingent, however, was delayed, and it was not till the 14th of August, when Famagusta had fallen, that the Cardinal-ambassador of Spain presented Don Juan with the Banner of the League, the gift of St. Pius, in the church of the Poor Clares at Naples.

The fleet was still unfortunately delayed by the weather. The galleys were obliged to wait for

a calm. It was not until the 16th of September that Don Juan, sailing from Messina, finally marshalled his fleet in order to battle. There were six great galleasses and about 250 galleys and smaller vessels. The galleasses were placed in a line in front of the rest of the fleet. Behind them were three squadrons of galleys. Behind these were two other squadrons, with wings to right and left. A strong force was held in reserve, and a few of the swiftest vessels were detached as a flying-squadron, to look out for the enemy.



The whole fleet being brought to anchor, the Rosary was devoutly recited, and from the galley "Victoria" the legate gave the Apostolic Benediction to 65,000 kneeling men. All, before sailing, had approached the sacraments; no bad characters were allowed to join; and on each ship were religious, as chaplains. It was the ideal of Christian warfare. Here were only "Christian soldiers fighting for the Church".

For nearly three weeks they sought the enemy. Early

on Sunday morning, the 7th of October, the two fleets came face to face in the Bay of Lepanto. The splendid Turkish warships, anchored in crescent form, filled with desperate freebooters, greatly out-numbered the Christian host, above which waved the white banner of the Pope. In the luminous pearly haze a couple of Greek islands lay dim upon the horizon, like clouds of rosy gold.

The crimson crescent and star of the Mohammedan flag and the gorgeous painted sails made vivid patches of colour



against the pale turquoise of the sky, and the shining, rippling water. For three hours the two fleets lay, gazing, it seemed, in admiration at the glorious sight. On each Christian ship the Rosary was recited for the last time, and Our Lady's help earnestly invoked. On each ship a religious gave general absolution, and Don Juan made the round of the fleet, exhorting and cheering his men.

It was the turning-point of the history of Christendom. At that moment there knelt in the Vatican, as he had knelt throughout the preceding night, — as he knelt till all was over — the figure of the aged Pope, worn by fasting, broken by illness, miraculously aware that this was the day which should decide the fate of the world.

He prayed, as Aaron the High Priest prayed upon Mount Hor,



while throughout the Holy City processions were organized and prayers offered for the success of the Christian arms and a hundred leagues away his people fought — and won.

The wind, which had been against the Christians, suddenly dropped, and the most decisive battle of the world was arrayed. But the intercession of Our Lady and the prayers of the Vicar of Christ prevailed. Though from a human stand-

point it is perfectly evident that only Don Juan's clear head and skilful generalship, and (at one supreme moment) the magnificent valour of the Knights of Malta saved the day, the Turks themselves felt that Heaven was against them. The sea was thick with wreck and spar, with wounded and dead. At 4.30 p.m. the Turks gave way. They had lost 240 ships and 33,000 men, whereas the Catholics had only lost 7000 to 8000, and comparatively few vessels. A great storm arose, and completed the destruction, while the victors made for the nearest harbour. Their first care was to pray for the dead; their second to send swift messengers to Rome, and the other great cities.

But St. Pius needed no messenger. He was sitting that afternoon in his study with his Pontifical treasurer Busotti when, rising suddenly, he opened a window to the

east, and stood for a few moments gazing into the sky. Then: "This is no time to talk of business!" he cried. "Let us thank Almighty God that our army has gained a great victory over the Turks!" and passing through the room, he went to kneel for hours before the Blessed Sacrament.

It was the first Sunday in October, a day since hallowed in the Church as Rosary Sunday.

The words of the Holy Pope, immediately written down, repeated to the Cardinals, signed, and sealed, but not published, were not confirmed for a fortnight. It was not until midnight, the 21st of October, that delayed by storms, a messenger arrived post-haste from the Doge Mocenigo at Venice, bearing the glorious tidings, Rome went mad with joy.



When, on his way to King Philip, Don Juan followed, not long after, to kneel at the feet of the Saint, a splendid *Triumph*

was prepared for him. Saint Pius presented him with a beautiful buckler of wrought and beaten iron, on which was a crucifix,

with the glorious motto: *Christus vincit! Christus regnat! Christus imperat!*

To Colonna, the Papal commander, another great reception was given. Throughout, the rejoicings took the form of Masses of thanksgiving, solemn *Te Deum*, and processions, so thoroughly had the spirit of St. Pius permeated the people, so entirely did they realize that the victory was of God, through His Blessed Mother and His Vicar on earth. Venice, Spain, Genoa, all Italy rejoiced together.

Such were the heroes, such the victory, of Our Lady Help of Christians. As we invoke her at Benediction by that sweetest of her titles let us thank God for St. Pius, who gave it to her, and who now prays for his people, in Heaven; let us sometimes remember Lepanto, as we sing: *Auxilium Christianorum, ora pro nobis.*

The great triumph of Lepanto, would alone have immortalized St. Pius V. Its importance will be better realized when it is remembered the Turks had never hitherto been conquered by sea.

The Battle of Lepanto arrested for ever the danger of Mohammedan invasion in the South of Europe. And Lepanto had been won by prayer!

As a simple friar, St. Pius, true to the spirit of his Order, had ever held the balance even between the life of prayer and the life of action. As Inquisitor, as Cardinal, as Pope, it was the same.

Neither suffered at the expense of the other. No biography of the Saint, however brief, which did not emphasise this fact, would be complete.

Most perfectly had he mastered that hard saying which bids us leave God for God.

M



My knightly Apostolate (part II)

We publish part II of the testimony one of Knights in Poland. First part we published on the issue No. 24 of the *Knight of the Immaculata*.

It wasn't long before I found out unexpectedly that my other brother had family problems as well. This time the difficulty was that his 16-year-old son had grown up having a lot of grudges against his parents, and that was why he was very harsh towards them.

I had the opportunity to observe this nephew during this year's vacation, which he spent with us from the beginning of the harvest season. He had a great respect for my husband and father-in-law. He was very eager to do any work, he was helpful.

Meanwhile, I learned from my sister that at home he was different and that he spoke badly to his parents. It was a real shock for me. Once again, I commissioned the Tridentine Mass for the second brother and his family, and asked everyone, just like before, to start the Pompeian Novena and pray to Father Venance Katarzyniec. And in this case, I encouraged people to wear the Miraculous Medal.

My nephew is faithfully wearing a chain necklace that I gave him at the end of the summer holi-

days. My sister-in-law also wears a medal.

**Apostolate among the residents
and employers of the
Residential Care Home**

I am convinced that all these situations were caused by the presence of Miraculous Medals under the roof of these families, despite the fact that not everyone started wearing them right away. In the meantime, in the nearby Residential Care Home (RCH), where I worked a few years ago, where I had many friends and acquaintances, the so-called epi-



demic had broken out. The situation was so dramatic that some of the employees were locked up with their charges in the nursing home, and some were placed in isolation at home. It lasted for several weeks. I felt deeply sorry for everyone, so my daughters and I surrounded them with heartfelt praying of the rosary.

I handed over the Miraculous Medals to the Residential Care Home along with flyers and brochures. I gave these materials to a few of my friends before the closing of the RCH, as the threat of quarantine had been anticipated for a long time. I must honestly admit that, paradoxically, this so-called the pandemic facilitated the distribution of medals and leaflets, because each time I referred to the fact that the Medals protect against an epidemic.

Earlier, I would have certainly been hesitant to hand out Medals, I would be embarrassed to do so, *etc.* Now I know that some employees of the Residential Care Home wear medals.

All the time I saw more souls to whom I wanted to offer Miraculous Medals. I have developed a certain strategy and method. I try to give medals to entire fami-



lies of my friends. I generously put into the envelope all the thematic folders and brochures that I currently have with the Medals.

The M.I. apostolate outside the family

When I send them by post, I write a short letter with simple explanations, emphasizing that the Medals are already blessed, that wearing them around the neck brings the most favours, as asked for by the Immaculate herself and St. Maximilian Kolbe, along with a final request that this gift should not offend anyone. I pray to the Immaculata for the person to whom I am offering the medal and publications by the M.I. saying the inspiring ejaculation: *O Mary conceived without sin...*

Over time, various occasions and circumstances arise in which

I offer Miraculous Medals. For example, my daughters give them to their friends on their 18th birthday. I gave them to the employees of the Health Centre, the hairdresser, neighbours, and my close and distant friends.

Sometimes I attach one to the First Holy Communion medalion, birthday gift, name day or jubilee gift. I also gave a gift to the parish priest on the occasion of his name day, and a few other priests. Nevertheless, the list of people who have not yet received the Miraculous Medal is constantly growing.

I want to give as many Medals and folders as possible, because each and every brochure is extremely valuable. Everything for the Immaculate, to save as many souls as possible for her, so that they would know and love her.

I learned about Mass during “pandemic” time

I am a man who has had a positive outcome from the hustle and bustle of the lies and fear in our country since the 4th of March 2020, known as the “pandemic”.

From the beginning I was interested in its various aspects, also in terms of faith. I received my information from outside the official propaganda and from friends and acquaintances with whom we shared information and experiences. The authorities' decisions regarding the Church and the faithful were the most memorable. I could in any way not come to terms with these decisions, nor accept them. Especially incomprehensible to me was the silence of the shepherds in

the face of the pandemic, the propaganda of which did not correspond with the events in my environment (and so it is to this day).

After a few weeks, I came to the conclusion that there is a strange compliance of the Episcopate with the events now taking place in our churches and their silent approval — profaning the Body of Christ by taking Him in the hand; instead of holy water (which Satan fears) there is a disinfecting liquid (sanitiser fluid); and standing before God in the church with a veiled face. I felt like a sheep betrayed by the shepherds.

Then my friend sent me a book about the Traditional Mass and

the magazine *Triumph of the Immaculate*, in which I found information about the Militia Immaculatæ Traditional Observance and the Brotherhood of St. Pius X. I was touched by the information they contained and I thought about returning to the Militia Immacu-



latae, renewed since the year 2000 according to the original statutes of St. Maximilian. I also learned about the Society of St. Pius X. Today I know that thanks to him the Tradition of the Catholic Church was able to survive.

After writing a request to the headquarters of M.I. I received

subsequent publications that confirmed me in my decision and my love for St. Maximilian Kolbe.

I am currently preparing to enter the Knighthood of the Immaculate Traditional Observance for the glory of the Immaculate.

Gerard

News from Vietnam

I'm an altar server and Knight in Vietnam.

Today, I am writing to report to you on the situation of the M.I. in Vietnam. It's been 2 years since the last Holy Mass of SSPX (January 22, 2020) before the pandemic arrived, and we were unable to gather together for Holy Mass at Anthony's house.

Currently, some M.I. members and I attend Sunday Mass and some feasts at FSSP's Oratory of St. Jean Théophane Venard. But we never forget the SSPX, and because of that we hope, look forward to and pray for the end of the pandemic,

so that the SSPX's Fathers can come to this country and celebrate Holy Mass for us. We miss our Fathers very much.

Next, thanks to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and Our Lady, we had through Fr. Laurent Demets FSSP admitted some people to the M.I. last Pentecost.



Catch souls online and offer them to the Immaculata

Facing a hard situation in the world for its apostolate, the M.I. has created different kinds of virtual material, using modern technologies as we were encouraged to do by St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe.

Tools: videos and virtual cards

Short catechetical and Marian videos present the bases of the Faith under Mary's eyes. Those videos can be about actuality, objections against faith and morals, objections of the Protestants or Muslims, brief stories of the apparitions recognised by the Church and so on...

Virtual cards are small and short memoranda which give

the Knights matters for reflection, meditation, tools for the apostolate, ways to follow the liturgy *etc...* We publish the virtual cards daily. Since January 2021, 100 daily cards have been produced in French and a few less for the English and Spanish languages.

Presentation: <https://youtu.be/K8F6JDQLOT0>

How do we spread them?

We have created French, English, and Spanish groups on social networks (FaceBook — FB, Instagram, Telegram, WhatsApp, Messenger...). For the moment, therefore, we have 3 teams made up of zealous Knights who work on these networks, directly re-





porting to the Headquarters of the M.I.

The virtual material, after being checked by the director of the M.I., is sent to the three teams which are responsible for translating and then transmitting them to their own contacts, to other Knights, their friends, their relatives, and above all, to all those who do not know much about religion or who have been subsumed into modernism.

However, for this apostolate to bear fruit, it is not enough to send a virtual card or a link to a chat group, but it must lead to a discussion, an exchange either verbally or by text. Without this, very quickly, the contacts who receive these videos or cards will get bored and will not even look at them...

Some facts

Messenger: some French contacts have committed to post videos on their FB timeline. This means concretely that these contacts publicly commit to support this apostolate, and make the Immaculata known in their own personal and professional life, since everyone has access to their timeline... These contacts come from everywhere and are not necessarily Knights. Also, with those who really want to deepen their spiritual life, groups were formed to study the catechism and receive some spiritual guidance, from a distance.

Facebook: The French MILITIAIMMACULATAEFR page has more than 1000 friends.



Several people experienced concrete spiritual benefits (discovery of what sins are, discovery of real spiritual combat, etc.)

YouTube channel: For the past year, it has had approximately 370 subscribers. The channel presents around 50 videos and records more than 8,300 views in 365 days. The English and Spanish Channels have more than 7,000 subscribers and the Polish channel 3,000 subscribers.

WhatsApp: Has three groups: One in English which brings together the countries of Nigeria, South Africa, the United Kingdom, Ireland, India, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia, Canada, Brazil (Harbour); One

in French for France, Gabon and Benin; One in Spanish for Spain, Mexico, Uruguay, and Peru.

The English group, called *Mary's Heart* does translations and sends the material to more than 2,000 Knights.

The French group called *Au Royaume de Marie* sends to more than 330 people. We also have contact with the headmaster of the Juvenate of Gabon who sends the material to many students enrolled as Knights.

The Spanish group, called *El Corazon de Maria* does translations and sends them to Spain, Mexico, Uruguay and Peru. One of our best translators discovered this apostolate through Facebook and was so enthusiastic that he offered his help.

Conclusion

How to join this apostolate and where can we find the daily cards? The Headquarters of the M.I. has posted all approved cards on the application Celebrate which can be entered by downloading the app and keying in the relevant code for your group.

- Au Royaume de Marie: FLIJMV
- In Mary's Heart: KZSDLQ
- El Corazon de Maria: GFXQHP

Public prayer of Knights in Poland

Knights of the Immaculata are praying in public places for unborn children (and also to stop the killing of unborn children with diagnosed deformities).

They are praying in the following Polish towns: Warszawa, Kraków, Poznań and Gniezno. In Warsaw, Poznań and Gniezno the Knights choose a few hospitals where children are being killed. In Kraków they pray in the main



square (on the picture). Knights choose one day during the week, usually a Sunday.

A Small Miracle — or what?

The Co-ordinator for the District GB & Scandinavia ordered some Miraculous Medals because supplies were getting low. Time went by and supplies became very low. More time went by and the Co-ordinator placed a replacement order as there were only 50 Medals left.

The new supply arrived but there was no trace of the original order. Some weeks later still, news arrived that the original order had been returned to the sender because the address label

had been damaged in transit and the shipment could not be delivered. It has been repackaged and sent on its way for a second time, so there will soon be enough medals to restock all the Militia Immaculatæ Corners in the District.

Truly, the Immaculata must have been keeping a watchful eye on those original Miraculous Medals, and carefully shepherded them back to the source so that they could be re-sent. Thank you, O Immaculata.

Howard Toon

Pilgrimage and new Knights in Poland

On the 4th of August 2021 the XXVII International Pilgrimage of the Society of St Pius X set off from Warsaw to Jasna Góra, to the throne of the Queen of Poland. The pilgrimage has been going since 1994 on the feast of St. Dominic, an itinerant preacher, defender of

the faith and of devotion to Mary Immaculate, and also on the anniversary of the election of Cardinal Joseph Sarto to the See of Peter, who took the name of Pius X.

The first pilgrims arrived in Warsaw on the 3rd of August, the day before the departure of the



Tent with the M.I. publications



The pilgrims distribute flyers among the people they meet

the pilgrimage. The M.I. Headquarters had prepared for them a presentation of publications of the Militia of the Immaculate. All the books, brochures, and folders were displayed under a special tent near the church building. The publications were very popular. The pilgrims also purchased rosaries and scapulars offered by the Knighthood in Warsaw and the M.I. Tent was open on the day of the pilgrimage's departure.

Each pilgrimage has its own theme. This year, the pilgrimage leader, Fr. Łukasz



The pilgrims on their way

Szydłowski, decided that the motto of the pilgrimage would be the Holy Mass as a sacrifice of the Lord Jesus. All the conferences and sermons concerned the Holy Mass. The priests preached conferences and sermons about many aspects of the Mass: the unbloody sacrifice of Jesus Christ that is celebrated at every Mass, the matter and form of the Mass, the worthy reception of Holy Communion, the differences between the Traditional Mass and the *Novus Ordo Mass*. Some speakers drew attention to the aberrations occurring during the NOM.

The pilgrimage is an excellent opportunity for apostolic activity among the people we meet. For this reason, the Knights of the

M.I. headquarters prepared Miraculous Medals and flyers for distribution. The special package contained 3 Miraculous Medals, 3 folders about the Miraculous Medal for protection against pandemics, 1 copy each of the folders about the Militia of the Immaculate, the symbolism of the Miraculous Medal, the history of the Rosary, the mysteries of the Rosary, the *Three Hail Marys*, the First Saturdays, and the folders about Mary Help of Christians and the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

These packets were displayed on a special table every day after breakfast and lunch. Pilgrims could then purchase flyers for the journey. Many pilgrims took several packets each day. Folders

were also available outside the packets. Some pilgrims handed out folders of their choice, e.g. about the Rosary, the First Saturdays or the devotion of *Three Hail Marys*. Children were the most popular distributors of M.I. materials, with whom adults sometimes had no chance to "compete".

Many of those receiving the folders were visibly touched. They also asked for extra copies. The folders were also distributed to other pilgrims. Not all pilgrims wanted to receive them, but sometimes they were interested in M.I. publications themselves. The ladies preparing meals for one pil-

grimage were very interested in M.I. flyers and asked for more than 20 packets, which they intended to distribute after the pilgrimage at their workplace.

It is estimated that the pilgrims handed out about 1,000–1,200 packets, which makes over 3,000 Miraculous Medals distributed, and over 10,000 flyers.

On the eve of the 80th anniversary of the martyrdom of St. Maximilian, on the 13th of August, 18 people joined the Militia Immaculatæ.

During the ascent to Jasna Góra the pilgrimage of the Society positively distinguished itself from other pilgrimages, which at times



Pilgrims on the Avenue of Blessed Virgin Mary. In the distance you can see the tower of the Jasna Góra monastery



The clergy in the chapel of the Miraculous Image of Our Lady of Częstochowa

resembled mundane events. Our pilgrims with pious Marian songs on their lips crossed the Avenue of the Virgin Mary leading directly to Jasna Góra. During this last part of the pilgrimage, brochures were also distributed, which were eagerly accepted. As the pilgrims approached the monastery, together with the priests leading the pilgrimage, they began praying the Rosary.

After entering the chapel of the Miraculous Image, the pilgrims sang the Bogurodzica. There was

also time for common and personal prayer.

The pilgrims, strengthened in their faith and certainly endowed with many graces, returned happily to their homes.

Before pilgrimage, during many ceremonies, events and retreats, Fr. Stehlin enrolled 134 Knights, including:

- 38 Knights in Wrocław,
- 33 in Nowy Sącz,
- 31 in Łódź,
- 26 in Bolesławiec,
- 6 in Milówka.

New Knights in Ghana

It was announced to the faithful in Ghana that one of the priests would arrive and would hear their Confessions. Afterwards, the faithful would promenade through the streets offering prayers and hymns to Our Blessed Mother. It would be a candlelit procession. How beautiful this was, in honour of her most pure Heart.

All Knights, ailing, young and old gathered together. We were 40 Knights strong including 20 potential Knights, who left home and comfort to camp till Father had said his final *Ite Missa Est*.

During the 7 days stay of our Priest, he preached a day of recollection, and gave a talk on the

true devotion and a life of total consecration entirely dedicated through Mary, by Mary, for Mary and In Mary. Father spoke about entering into a fight for souls, a spiritual combat which was no longer personal but to bring others to the feet of The Immaculata. After that, just before the Offertory of the Mass, the Knights filed down the aisle, knelt down In front of Christ their King residing in the Tabernacle and made their vows to their Queen.

The new Knights understood what they had signed up for so clearly that the next morning at breakfast, after their grace after meals, they recited the ejaculation prayer: *O Mary conceived without*



sin... and the *Grant O Immaculata...*

Father spoke about the victory of the conversion of souls as owed to the Blessed Virgin just by simply corresponding to her wishes as Knights.

The Miraculous Medal softens the hearts of even the most obstinate sinner and draws down innumerable graces of conversion and

contrition as the Immaculata has promised.

As these 20 Knights knelt down to recite their *Veni Creator Spiritus* we who looked on them thanked the Most Holy Virgin for kindly bringing us more colleagues to join this spiritual battle, for souls, for the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Reign of Christ the King!

New Knights in the U.S. and Nicaragua

In the United States of America Father James Trummer enrolled about 300 new Knights on two chapels in Dallas. The ceremony was on the 22nd of August.

In Nicaragua where Father Boniface is working among the Catholics and atheists, he enrolled over 30 Knights into the Militia Immaculatæ.



"When there's no hope"

A Knight tells us: I walked into an audio video equipment store and approached a salesperson to help me with my research. It was then that I saw his arm on which was tattooed the following message written in English: "When there's no hope", which means "When there is no more hope". To embellish this message a pentacle was drawn. So I talked to this man: "When there is no more hope there is she," I said, pulling out of my bag a Miraculous Medal. "It is for you."

Then two of his colleagues arrived on the scene and one of them pointing the finger at the tattoo, asked: "What does that mean?" And his colleague replied: "It is the Devil!" They fled further into the store.

My salesperson, who hadn't said anything until then, had turned red like a peony. So with

compassion I said to him: It is true that this pentacle refers to the Devil but you must know that you have a mother who can do anything! The Virgin Mary is really your mother and it is to her that we must address ourselves when there is no longer any hope... Then we continued to discuss my research in audiovisual matters.

When I got to the checkout one of the previous salespeople grabbed the Miraculous Medal and showed it to his colleagues, telling them to look at what I had given out: I noticed the puzzled and envious looks all over. At that very same time, I took out of my bag some more Medals which I distributed all around explaining who Mary was. And when I left the store, the Queen had new territory in which to work.

Warsaw, February 2021

The Militia Immaculatæ is an army of Knights of Mary Immaculate which works for the conversion of all men to God, be they Protestants, or Jews, or Muslims, & in particular the Freemasons, and that all become saints, under the patronage and through the mediation of the Immaculate Virgin.

The Militia Immaculatæ was founded by St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe on the 16th of October 1917. Since 1937, Militia Immaculatæ is also called the Knights of the Immaculata.



Original Statutes of the Militia Immaculatæ (by St. Maximilian)

"She will crush your head." (Genesis 3:15)

"Thou alone hast vanquished all heresies throughout the world."

(from the Roman Breviary)

I. Goal of Membership:

To work for the conversion to God of all men, be they sinners, heretics, schismatics, Jews, Moslems etc., in particular the Freemasons; and that all become saints, under the patronage and through the mediation of the Immaculate Virgin.

II. Conditions of Membership:

1. To consecrate oneself entirely to the Immaculate Virgin, placing oneself freely as a docile and generous instrument in her hands.
2. To wear the Miraculous Medal.

III. Duties of Membership:

1. If possible, to pray the following ejaculatory prayer at least once a day: "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee, and for all those who do not have recourse to thee, especially for the Freemasons and for those who are commended to thy care."
2. To use all other valid and legitimate means for the conversion and sanctification of men, according to one's means, in the different states and conditions of life, as the occasions present themselves; this is entrusted to the zeal and prudence of each one. Particularly recommended, however, is spreading the Miraculous Medal.

N.B. These means are recommended only as suggestions and not as an obligation; not one of them obliges under pain of sin, not even venial sin. Our principal motive is to help the greatest possible number of souls to be united with the Sacred Heart of Jesus through the mediation of the Immaculata.

If you want to join us, please email: info@militia-immaculatae.org
and tell us which country you are from.

Masses for the M.I. in 2021

We are pleased to announce that Father Dennis McDonald, National Moderator of the M.I. in the USA, will offer in the year 2021 Holy Masses for the sanctification of the Knights of the Militia Immaculatæ. Father will celebrate these Masses on the most important Feasts of Our Lady.

February 2nd – Purification/Presentation

March 25th – Annunciation

March 26th – Our Lady of Compassion

April 26th – Our Lady of Good Counsel

May 31st – Queenship of the Blessed Virgin

June 27th – Our Lady of Perpetual Help

July 2nd – Visitation of the Blessed Virgin

September 24th – Our Lady of Ransom

October 13th – Fatima apparition

October 16th – Founding of the M.I.

November 27th – Miraculous Medal

December 10th – Our Lady of Loreto



We offer sincere thanks to our benefactors, through whose help we are able to print and distribute good reading materials.

Please support the apostolate of the Militia Immaculatæ

www.militia-immacolatae.org/english/donations/

